

REMARKS

Reconsideration and further examination of the subject patent application in light of the present Amendment and Remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 48-63 are currently pending in the application. Claims 48, 49, 53, 57 and 58 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting. Claims 51, 52, 54-56 and 59-63 have been indicated as allowable, but objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Rejections

Claims 48, 49 and 53 have been rejected for obviousness type double patenting over the claims of U.S. Pat. No. 6,190,018. Included herewith is a terminal disclaimer of U.S. Pat. No. 6,190,018.

Claims 57 and 58 have been rejected for obviousness type double patenting over the claims of U.S. Pat. No. 6,357,890. Included herewith is a terminal disclaimer of U.S. Pat. No. 6,357,890.

For the foregoing reasons, applicant submits that the subject application is in condition for allowance and earnestly solicits an early Notice of Allowance. Should the Primary Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, the Primary Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below-listed number.

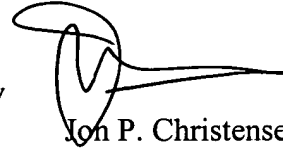
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee which may be required for this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.18, including but not limited to the issue fee, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. Should no proper amount be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal, or

even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. A duplicate copy of this sheet(s) is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon P. Christensen', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jon P. Christensen

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